

Creel Survey

February 20, 2011

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – No report on angling success.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 64 winter-run steelhead, one winter-run steelhead jack and one cutthroat trout during four days of operation at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 11 winter-run steelhead into the Cispus River above the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek and they released seven winter-run steelhead and one cutthroat trout into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 8,750 cubic feet per second on Monday, February 22. Water visibility is two feet.

Lower Columbia mainstem from the I-5 Bridge downstream – The 3 bank anglers sampled in the Longview area had no catch. Some spring Chinook and large hatchery winter run steelhead were reportedly caught.

Effort is increasing with 72 salmonid boats and over 210 bank anglers counted during the Saturday Feb. 19 flight. Over half the boats were counted from Woodland to Vancouver. Majority of the bank effort was on the Oregon side. Both the Willamette and mainstem Columbia below the Cowlitz were reported to be turbid.

Bonneville Pool – No salmonid anglers were found in the sample.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers averaged nearly 2 steelhead per rod when including wild fish released. Bank anglers were also catching some steelhead.

John Day Pool – Bank anglers are catching some steelhead. Light effort and catch for boat anglers.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – 6 bank anglers just below Bonneville had no catch as did the two bank anglers sampled in the Longview area. Effort was a little higher with 66 boats counted during last Saturday's effort flight count. The largest concentration of boats was around the Vancouver area.

Bonneville Pool – Closed to sturgeon retention through the end of the year. Catch-and-release fishing is permitted.

The Dalles and John Day pools – Slow for legal size fish.

Walleye and Bass

Bonneville, The Dalles, and John Day pools – Boat anglers are catching some walleye. Little or no effort for bass.

Trout

Klineline Pond – 29 bank anglers kept one 6.5 pound brood stock rainbow.

Carlisle Lake near Onalaska – Planted with 30 rainbows averaging 5 pounds each on Feb. 15. Open to fishing through the end of February.

Rowland Lake near Lyle – Planted with 330 rainbows averaging 1.6 pounds each Feb. 16. Open to fishing through the end of February.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:											Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep					
Bonneville ¹	1040										1,040	52.0%	Jan. 31	2,000
The Dalles	65										65	21.7%	Jan. 31	300
John Day	187										187	37.4%	Jan. 31	500
Current month sampled sturgeon kept:														
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep					
Bonneville ¹	145	71									216		Feb. 6	
The Dalles	11										11		Feb. 6	
John Day	37	10									47		Feb. 6	
¹ Pool closed to sturgeon retention.														
Harvest estimates are updated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary. Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.														

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

February 14 - 20, 2011

The following table is a summary of numbers of fish observed by samplers. Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

Sturgeon														
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool	38	3				18	22	48	94	2	16		198	216
The Dalles Pool	19	2				2	2	5	1				9	11
John Day Pool	24					10	9	21	5			2	37	47
Total	81	5				30	33	74	100	2	16	2	244	274
Salmonids														
	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Jacks Kept Week Cum
Bonneville Pool													2	2
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead													2	2
The Dalles Pool	10			1		9	4	9		10	5		7	16
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead				1		9				10	5		7	16
John Day Pool	9			1		5	2	5					6	11
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead				1		5							6	11
Walleye														
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool							2	3	2	2			3	3
The Dalles Pool						1	2	3	1	1			25	26
John Day Pool							14	33	2	23			57	57
Bass														
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool														
The Dalles Pool														
John Day Pool	2													

¹ Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

		Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (% of 6-week average)	63%	none	180%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	1.34	none	1.33	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.19	none	0.67	none
The Dalles	Effort (% of 6-week average)	51%	118%	50%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.13	0.84	0.67	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	0.32	0.33	none
John Day	Effort (% of 6-week average)	35%	129%	198%	200%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.16	0.07	0.76	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	0.07	0.70	none

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